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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/523,044	03/10/2000	Takao Chihara	1503.63657	4484

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/523,044	CHIHARA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Namitha Pillai	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5, 6, 8-11 and 13-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5-6, 8-11 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1, 5-6, 8-11 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 6,061,516 (Yoshikawa et al.) and U. S. Patent No. 5,179,700 (Aihara et al.).

Referring to claims 1, 9 and 10, Yoshikawa discloses a graphical user interface screen generating apparatus that acquires field attribute data, indicating for each field, whether the field is an output field or input-output field and a character string defined from screen data of a character-based user interface screen, as is shown in Figure 3 (Figure 6 and column 6, lines 26-46). Yoshikawa also discloses means for determining whether each of the fields is an output or input-output field based on the field attribute data acquired (column 6, lines 34-37). Yoshikawa discloses specifying control names of the fields in the graphical user interface based on a character string of the extracted field information, wherein Yoshikawa clearly shows a relation between the extracted field of "NAME" from the character based extracted information with the newly created field name for "NAME" for the graphical user interface based form (column 11, lines 48-51, lines 55-56, column 10, lines 57-62 and Figure 7). The names of these controls are registered as the control name of the fields in a memory, as seen in Figure 1, which includes information such as the fields names of the controls, it is shown that the computer (reference

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number 2, Figure 1) would have a memory which would hold this information (column 6, lines 18-20 and Figure 1). Yoshikawa discloses naming the controls wherein, the output and fixed fields clearly have control names that are associated with each other, wherein as seen in Figure 7, the fixed field is the output field which is in the vicinity of output field and hence the output field has a control name that is associated with the fixed field that is in the vicinity of the fixed field. Nonetheless, as recited in the claims, Yoshikawa does not clearly describe the same case for the input-output fields that are disclosed in the invention. Aihara does disclose the same conversion of a character based user interface into a graphical user interface, as disclosed by Yoshikawa, but goes further to disclose that the input-output fields in Aihara's invention has control names, wherein the graphical user interface screen is based on a character string of the field information of the output field in the vicinity of the input-output field (Figures 9 and 10). In Figure 10, the control names of the input-output fields, for "USER ID" and "PASSWORD" are clearly associated with the character string information of the output field that are in the vicinity of these control fields as also seen by the depiction of this screen in Figure 7. Aihara goes further to clearly disclose the step of creating these control names specifically within the new panel that is created, wherein the control name is based on the field information acquired from the source panel and that information is used to create a new control name within the new panel (column 7, lines 63-68). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention to learn from Aihara to implement a means for naming the input-output field name based on the output field that is closet to the input-output field. Both Yoshikawa and Aihara have been means for converting the character based user interface into a graphical user interface, this process involving renaming of the field names and other variables used for setting up the new screen.

Thus both these disclosures deal with acquiring information from the old screen and forming new control names based on these acquired information. Yoshikawa does have a naming means for the controls of the screens but does not clearly discuss the naming rules for its input-output field, wherein these fields would be named based on the character string of the output field nearest to it. Aihara teaches precisely such a method for naming these input-output fields, which makes it simpler to identify the use of this input-output field rather than the field names used by Yoshikawa in identifying their input-output fields as seen in Figure 7 of Yoshikawa. Hence, one skilled in the art would have been motivated, at the time of the invention to learn from Aihara to implement a method wherein the input-output control name would be based on the output character string information that is nearest to the input-output field.

Referring to claims 5 and 11, Yoshikawa and Aihara disclose that the control name of the input-output field based on the character string of the output field which is before the input-output field and exists closest to the input-output field, as is the case of the fields and control names "password" and "userid", as seen in Figure 7 of Aihara.

Referring to claim 6, Yoshikawa and Aihara discloses adding a specific character string to one of the registered control names, the control names being either those for the input-output fields and the output field, during the field setting process (Yoshikawa, column 11, lines 56-66 and column 12, lines 1-3).

Referring to claim 8, Yoshikawa and Aihara disclose that a group of predetermined control name specifying rules and regulations are used for adding the specific character string to one of the registered control names of the screen, the controls being input-output fields and output fields (Yoshikawa, column 11, lines 47-67).

Referring to claims 13-15, Yoshikawa and Aihara disclose that the naming unit selects the acquired field character string of the output field in the vicinity of the input-output field as a candidate for the control name of the input-output field for which no name is defined in the character-based user interface screen, determines if the candidate complies with the naming rules contained in a name regulation table, and specifies a character string obtained by removing a part of the candidate string or adding a number of characters to the candidate character string as the control name of the input-output field when the candidate is determined not comply with the naming rules (Yoshikawa, Figure 7).

Response to Claim Changes

2. The Examiner acknowledges Applicant's amendments to claims 1, 9, 10 and 13-15 to better specify the claimed invention. However all claims are still rejected as being previously disclosed and obvious over prior art.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 1/13/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to Applicant's arguments that the current rejection does not provide art that teaches providing control names for input/output fields for which no field names have been defined. The amendments wherein including an acquiring unit is much like the extracting unit discussed in previous rejections, wherein both components merely access already present data and there is no further discussion of manipulation of this data to create a newly formed control name. Furthermore, the field of forming control names for fields to be displayed is well known and common, wherein naming fields with control names have been previously disclosed in the

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field of graphical user interface, wherein the features of these present claims is disclosed in prior art and would be further obvious based on prior art found in the field of user interfaces and control fields.

With respect to Applicant's arguments that Aihara discloses using names that already exist in the source panel to create the new panel. The claims of the present invention teach features for retrieving data and using this retrieved data to assign names to fields that are displayed. The claims do not point out distinct features of clearly manipulating the acquired data, thereby changing the acquired data and further using the manipulated data to create the control names of the new graphical user interface. Aihara clearly teaches acquiring data and using this acquired data to assign names to the input/output control field names.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,

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Washington D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, central FAX number (703) 872-9306 may be used. NOTE: A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed. Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document. Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

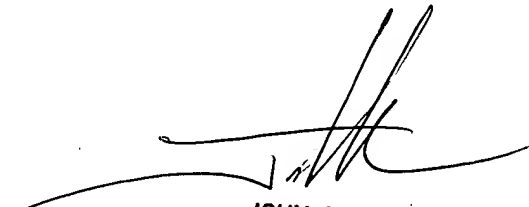
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4054. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048.

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Namitha Pillai
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2173
May 12, 2005



JOHN CABECA
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